

URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL OF MIDDLEWICH

R E P O R T

of the


MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH

and

PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTOR

for the

YEAR 1969



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URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL OF MIDDLEWICH

ANNUAL REPORT FOR THE YEAR 1969

Chairman of the Council : Councillor W. Faulkner.

HEALTH AND SEWERAGE COMMITTEE

Chairman: Councillor J. E. Garner

COUNCILLORS

Councillor F. Bailey	Councillor H. Dale
Councillor M. M. Bowden	Councillor C. V. Davenport
Councillor G. C. Bowen	Councillor J. W. Littlemore
Councillor T. Broad	Councillor G. F. J. Stallard
Councillor T. C. Costello	Councillor J. M. Telfer

and the above Chairmen

S T A F F

Medical Officer of Health

F. SEYMOUR, M.B., Ch.B., D.P.H.

Other Appointments: The Medical Officer of Health is also Medical Officer of Health for Northwich Rural District Council, Northwich Urban District Council, Winsford Urban District Council, Runcorn Rural District Council and Runcorn Urban District Council.

and Divisional Medical Officer to the  
Mid-Cheshire and Runcorn Divisions

Public Health Inspector

F. Costello



URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL OF MIDDLEWICH

Telephone No.:  
Northwich 3961

County Offices,  
Watling Street,  
NORTHWICH,  
Cheshire.

July, 1970

To the Chairman and Members of the  
Middlewich Urban District Council.

Dear Mr. Chairman and Councillors,

On behalf of Dr. Seymour your Medical Officer of Health for 1969, I have the honour to present the Annual Report of the environmental health and sanitary circumstances of the Council's district for that year.

For the information of members I enclose a copy of the Annual Report to the Divisional Health Committee.

I am sure Dr. Seymour would wish me to express his appreciation to Mr. Costello and the Council's Chief Officers for their co-operation and help during the year.

I have the honour to be

Your Obedient Servant,

*J. S. O'Malley*

Medical Officer of Health.



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# SECTION I

## GENERAL AND VITAL STATISTICS

### (1) GENERAL STATISTICS

#### Comparative Statistics - 1968/69

	Year	
	1968	1969
Population (Estimated)	7,980	8,000
Rateable Value	£282,720	£295,932
Product of Penny Rate (Estimated)	£1,139	£1,385
Number of inhabited dwellings	2,675	2,738
Area of District (Acres)	1,971	1,971

### (2) VITAL STATISTICS

<u>Live Births</u>	<u>Males</u>	<u>Females</u>	<u>Total</u>	<u>England and Wales</u>
Legitimate	74	65	139	
Illegitimate	<u>2</u>	<u>3</u>	<u>5</u>	
	76	68	144	
	—	—	—	
Crude Birth Rate per 1,000 population			18.0	
+Corrected Live Birth Rate per 1,000 population (Comparability Factor 1.02)			18.4	16.3
Illegitimate Live Births per cent of total births			3.0	
<u>Still Births</u>	<u>Males</u>	<u>Females</u>	<u>Total</u>	
	—	1	1	
<u>Infant Deaths</u>	<u>Males</u>	<u>Females</u>	<u>Total</u>	
Deaths of infants under 1 year of age	1	—	1	
Deaths of infants under 4 weeks of age	1	—	1	
Infant Mortality Rate per 1,000 total live births			7.0	18.0

+ see Page 2.

Maternal Deaths (including abortion)	..	..	..	..	..	Nil	
Deaths		<u>Males</u>	<u>Females</u>	<u>Total</u>			England and <u>Wales</u>
All Causes .. .. .	38	39	77				
Death Rate per 1,000 population			9.6				
+Corrected Death Rate per 1,000 population (Comparability Factor 1.21)			11.6			11.9	

+NOTE: The corrected birth and death rates are those which are obtained when the crude local rates are adjusted to make allowances for the way in which the sex and age distribution of the local population differs from that for England and Wales. The corrected rates are comparable with the crude rates for England and Wales, and the corresponding adjusted rates for any other area.

	<u>Causes of Death</u>		
	<u>Males</u>	<u>Females</u>	<u>Total</u>
1. Other Infective and Parasitic Diseases	-	1	1
2. Malignant Neoplasm, Oesophagus	1	-	1
3. Malignant Neoplasm, Stomach	-	2	2
4. Malignant Neoplasm, Intestine	2	1	3
5. Malignant Neoplasm, Lung, Bronchus	4	1	5
6. Leukaemia	1	-	1
7. Other Malignant Neoplasms	-	5	5
8. Diabetes Mellitus	2	2	4
9. Chronic Rheumatic Heart Disease	1	-	1
10. Hypertensive Disease	-	1	1
11. Ischaemic Heart Disease	12	4	16
12. Other Forms of Heart Disease	-	2	2
13. Cerebrovascular Disease	2	6	8
14. Pneumonia	2	3	5
15. Bronchitis and Emphysema	3	3	6
16. Peptic Ulcer	1	-	1
17. Other Diseases of Digestive System	1	1	2
18. Other Diseases, Genito-Urinary System	-	3	3
19. Symptoms and Ill Defined Conditions	1	4	5
20. Motor Vehicle Accidents	4	-	4
21. All Other Accidents	<u>1</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>1</u>
	38	39	77
	—	—	—

## SECTION II

### HEALTH SERVICES

(1) Information concerning the statutory and voluntary Health and Welfare Services in the area are given in the enclosed report of the Divisional Medical Officer. Further details may be obtained from the Divisional Medical Office, County Offices, Watling Street, Northwich. Telephone number - Northwich 3961.

#### (2) HOSPITAL FACILITIES

The Middleswich Urban District lies within the area of the Manchester Regional Hospital Board whose offices are the Cheetwood Road, Manchester, 8. Telephone number - Deansgate 7271.

#### (3) GENERAL PRACTITIONER SERVICES

The District lies within the area of the Cheshire Executive Council, whose offices are at 28 Nicholas Street, Chester. Telephone number - Chester 23158.

#### (4) AMBULANCE SERVICE

The ambulance service is provided by the County Council and is under radio control from central control at County Hall, Chester. All 999 calls made by members of the public are immediately connected to this central control. The arrangement for non-urgent calls is that the patient or general practitioner should ring the Northwich Depot - Telephone number : Northwich 3355.

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## SECTION III

### NATIONAL ASSISTANCE ACTS, 1948 - 1951

#### Section 47

Under this Section when persons (a) are suffering from grave chronic disease or, being aged, infirm or physically incapacitated, are living in insanitary conditions, and (b) are unable to devote to themselves, and are not receiving from other persons, proper care and attention, the local authority may apply to a Court of Summary Jurisdiction for an Order to remove the person to a suitable place.

With regard to the expeditious procedure as laid down in the National Assistance (Amendment) Act, 1951, the Medical Officer of Health or any duly qualified person acting for the Medical Officer of Health is authorised by the Council to make the requisite application to a Justice of the Peace.

#### Section 50

Under this Section the District Council has the duty to arrange for the burial of any person who has died in their area, if no suitable arrangements for the disposal of the body are being made.

It was not necessary to take any action under either of these Sections during the year.



## S E C T I O N    I V

### PREVALENCE AND CONTROL OF INFECTIOUS DISEASE

#### (1) NOTIFICATIONS OF INFECTIOUS DISEASE

The following are the infectious diseases notified for the year 1968 and 1969:

DISEASE	Cases Notified	
	1968	1969
Measles	9	-
Pneumonia	1	-

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## S E C T I O N    V

### SANITARY CIRCUMSTANCES OF THE AREA

#### (1) WATER SUPPLY

The water supply is provided by the Mid & South East Cheshire Water Board whose offices are at Weaverham Grange, Hartford, near Northwich.

The water supplied to the district was satisfactory in quantity and does not have a plumbo-solvent action. During the year 4 samples were taken by our own Health Department and 17 by the Water Board. All were bacteriologically satisfactory.

There are no dwellinghouses in the district supplied by means of stand-pipes.

#### (2) SEWERAGE AND SEWAGE DISPOSAL

The Surveyor reports that considerable delays have been experienced in the storm water outfall scheme for the Cledford Area and by the end of the year the Contract had progressed beyond the time limit without completion being effected.

During the summer, construction of the new Sewage works commenced and satisfactory progress was made throughout the winter. At the end of the year details were made available for tendering for the last stage of the scheme, namely construction of the various pumping stations and for the re-construction of certain sewers in the town. The programme was arranged for the work to commence during the summer of 1970.

There is still a risk of flooding at the Kinderton Culvert and at Warringham Lane - Booth Lane junction, although attention which has been given to these points during the year has somewhat reduced the danger.

At the old sewage works, the maximum possible amount of filtration is being given to the partially settled sewage arriving at the works. The Council's Consulting Engineers have instructions to provide temporary pumping arrangements at the westerly end of Chester Road.

### (3) CLOSET ACCOMMODATION

There are still 6pail closets in the district and since they are considerable distances from the sewers they cannot be converted to a water carriage system until the new sewerage scheme is carried out.

### (4) REFUSE COLLECTION AND DISPOSAL

The Council has a weekly collection of refuse. During the year 175 dustbins with rubber lids were sold to householders. All bins are collected from the premises for emptying and returned afterwards. Collection of refuse is by two Karrier dual tipper vehicles, one of which has also a compression plate. The older vehicle, although giving good service is eleven years old and will require re-placing within the next two years.

Disposal is by tipping at Croxton, where free tipping is also provided for builders debris and garden refuse. In addition the Council collects free of charge all surplus and obsolete items of furniture. An adequate quantity of soil was available for cover.

Salvage is kept separate from refuse and in the year 100 tons of paper was baled and sold for £953 of which 10% was shared amongst the workmen.

### (5) PETROLEUM STORAGE

Twenty-one licences were issued for the bulk storage of petroleum. One tank ceased to be used and was made safe. The fees amounted to £60. All installations were inspected.

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## H O U S I N G

### PROVISION OF NEW HOUSES

#### Private Housing

Owing to the lack of sewage disposal facilities, no private houses were undertaken during the year.

#### Council Housing

Six, one bedroomed bungalows and 19 two bedroomed bungalows were completed during the year and occupied mainly by families from houses to be demolished, so that an inner ring road can be constructed.

#### Housing in General

There is no known overcrowding in the district. The average number of persons per dwelling shows a slight reduction and is now 2.92.

During the year the Council made loans on 23 dwellings under the Housing (Financial Provisions) Act, 1958. These loans amounted in total to £31, 112. Eight standard and seven discretionary grants were made amounting to £3, 166.

#### Slum Clearance

An "undertaking" from the owners to demolish and clear the site was accepted in respect of eleven houses numbered 14 to 34 Croxton Lane, but at the end of the year nine families had not been re-housed.

#### House Letting

The Council has a "Points Scheme" for the selection of tenants for Council houses.



At the end of the year there was a waiting list of 68 local families of whom 13 were already the tenants of Council houses and mainly desired bungalows, 10 were lodging in Council houses, 42 were tenants or owners of other houses and 5 were lodging in private houses.

Housing Notices Complied with:-

Repairs to defective drains	..	..	..	..	3
Repairs to roofs.	..	..	..	..	2
Repairs to defective closets	..	..	..	..	5

Few complaints are received since apart from Council Houses, only about one hundred houses are privately let, the remainder being owner occupiers.

Caravan Sites

There is one site on the outskirts of the district which is licenced. Model Standards 1960 are fully complied with. The area is about three-quarters of an acre and will hold nine caravans, all of which will have indoor water closets, towns water, drainage and electricity.

Common Lodging Houses

There are no Common Lodging houses in the district.

Pet Animal Act, 1951

There are no Pet Shops Licensed in the district.

Scrap Metal Dealers Act, 1964

One dealer is registered under the Act.

Destruction of Rats and Mice

All Business Premises, Farms and most dwellings were inspected at least once and treatment given as required. Treatments at Business Premises are charged for, but private dwellings are treated free of cost.

A test baiting of 15% of all sewer manholes was made in conjunction with the Ministry of Agriculture and in no case was there any "take".

Very few complaints of rodent infestation were received during the year.

Smoke Abatement

No complaints were received during the year.

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# SECTION VI

## FACTORIES ACT, 1961

### Part 1 of the Act

1. Inspections for purposes of provisions as to health (including inspections made by the Public Health Inspector).

Premises	No. on Register	No. of		
		Inspections	Written Notices	Prosecutions
(i) Factories in which Sections 1.2.3.4. and 6 are to be enforced by Local Authorities.	-	-	-	-
(ii) Factories not included in (i) in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority.	38	18	2	-
(iii) Other Premises in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority (excluding outworkers' premises).	4	6	-	-
Total	42	24	2	-

#### New Industries

During 1969, the new British Salt Factory was brought into production and negotiations were taking place for the Pepper Street Works of the Cerebos Company to be acquired for new industry.

2. Cases in which defects were found:

Particulars	Number of cases in which defects were found			Number of cases in which prosecutions were instituted.		
	Found	Remedied	Referred			
			To H.M. Insp.			By H.M. Insp.
Want of Cleanliness (S.1.)	-	-	-	-	-	
Overcrowding (S.2.)	-	-	-	-	-	
Unreasonable temperature (S.3.)	-	-	-	-	-	
Inadequate ventilation (S.4.)	-	-	-	-	-	
Total	-	-	-	-	-	

OUTWORKERS

There are no outworkers registered with the Authority.

Particulars	Number of cases in which defects were found				Number of cases in which prosecutions were instituted
	Found	Remedied	Referred		
			To H.M. Insp.	By H.M. Insp.	
Ineffective drainage of floors (S.6)	-	-	-	-	-
Sanitary Conveniences (S.7)					
(a) Insufficient	1	1	-	-	-
(b) Unsuitable or defective	1	1	-	-	-
(c) Not separate for sexes	-	-	-	-	-
Other offences against the Act (not including offences relating to Outwork)	-	-	-	-	-
Total	2	2	-	-	-

Offices, Shops & Railway Premises Act, 1963

The Act applies to 66 premises, all of which have been registered. A total of 164 persons are employed in these premises, 43 males and 121 females. 32 visits were made in connection with this Act.



## SECTION VII

### INSPECTION AND SUPERVISION OF FOOD

#### (a) MILK

16 dealers are registered in the district under the Milk and Dairies Regulations.

There are no dairy herds from which milk is sold raw to the public.

The following tables show the results of tests on samples of milk taken by the County Council.

TABLE I.

Type of Test	Taken by C. C.	
	Satis.	Unsatis.
1. Methylene Blue	53	-
2. Phosphatase	7	-
3. Turbidity	-	-

1. Measures the keeping quality of the milk.
2. Measures the efficiency of the Pasteurisation process.
3. Measures the efficiency of the Sterilising process.

#### (b) ICE-CREAM

No ice-cream is manufactured in the district and the only ice-cream sold is pre-wrapped. 5 samples were taken in the district and were submitted to the Chester Public Health Laboratory. These were satisfactory and placed in the Provisional Grade as follows:

Provisional Grade 1 .. 4

Provisional Grade 2 .. 1

#### (c) MEAT

The only slaughterhouse is at Newton Hall. These premises were well maintained.

95 visits of inspection were made and Inspectors of the Winsford Urban District deputised during the holidays of the Middlewich Public Health Inspector. This co-operation and help is greatly appreciated.

Inspection charges for the year amounted to £53 - 12s. - Od.

No horses are slaughtered in the district.

Tables of Carcasses and Offal

Inspected and Conderned in whole or in part

	Cattle excluding Cows	Cows	Calves	Sheep and Lambs	Pigs
Number killed	3	59	546	67	632
Number inspected	3	59	546	67	632
<u>ALL DISEASES EXCEPT TUBERCULOSIS &amp; CYSTICERCI</u>					
Whole carcasses condemned	-	1	15	-	3
Carcasses of which some part or organ was condemned	1	9	3	-	9
Percentage of the number inspected affected with disease other than tuber- culosis and cysticerchi	33.3%	16.9%	3.3%	-	1.9%
<u>TUBERCULOSIS ONLY</u>					
Whole carcasses condemned	-	-	-	-	-
Carcasses of which some part of organ was condemned	-	-	-	-	-
Percentage of the number inspected affected with tuberculosis	-	-	-	-	-
<u>CYSTICERCOSIS</u>					
Carcasses of which some part or organ was condemned	-	-	-	-	-
Generalised and totally condemned	-	-	-	-	-
Percentage of the number inspected affected with cysticerchi	-	-	-	-	-

(d) Unsound Food

Condemnation notes were issued in respect of 3 tins of ham.

Disposal of Unsound Food

Condemned meat at the Slaughterhouse is stained green and then sold for animal feeding stuffs via an approved agent. Condemned foods at shops are collected and buried at the refuse tip.

Food Premises

The undermentioned food premises are in use in the Middlewich District.

Schedule of premises subject to Regs. 16 & 19  
of the Food Hygiene (General) Regulations, 1960

	<u>Number</u>	<u>Complying with Reg. 16</u>	<u>Reg. 19 Applies</u>	<u>Complying with Reg. 19</u>
Butchers Shops	7	7	7	7
Bakehouses	3	3	3	3
Schools	5	5	5	5
Fish and Chip Shops	4	4	4	4
Grocery Shops	23	23	23	23
Fresh Fish Shops	1	1	1	1
Chocolate and Sweets	6	6	-	-
Public Houses	15	15	-	-
Clubs and Licenced Bars	3	3	-	-
Greengrocers	4	4	-	-
Chemist Shops	3	3	-	-
Slaughterhouses	1 (Complies with Slaughterhouse Hygiene Regulations)			

These descriptions only indicate the main type of food sold in each shop.

Registered Under Section 16, Food and Drugs Act, 1955

For retail sale of wrapped ice-cream	..	24
For retail sale of sausages, meat pies, etc.	..	15
Dairies registered under Milk & Dairies Regulations, 1959-60..	.. .. .	1
Registered Milk Dealers.	.. .. .	16

All bakehouses and food premises are regularly inspected and are well maintained.

MEAT SAMPLES

5 samples of various meat products were taken and sent for bacteriological examination. Three were satisfactory. There were two unsatisfactory samples of brawn and savoury duck which the manufacturer has now stopped producing.



OTHER FOODS

The County Council Weights and Measures Inspectors took samples of 45 varied articles of food in the Middlewich Urban District during 1969. The following 1 sample was not up to standard.

Sample

Remarks

Dried Non-Fat  
Milk, Skinned.

Manufacturer cautioned.

In addition, the following complaints were received from private purchasers:-

Nature

Remarks

Flour containing metal staple.

Manufacturer cautioned.

Nuts and Raisins containing  
a maggot

Packer fined £10.

Bottle of Coca Cola  
containing small quantities  
of fungus.

Manufacturer cautioned.

F. SEYMOUR.

Medical Officer of Health.

F. COSTELLO.

Public Health Inspector.



